

## Level 1 Field Procedures

Please hold off going out if your safety would be at risk, if it is raining heavily (i.e., making it difficult to see the Secchi disk accurately), if there is abnormally high boat traffic, or if it is extremely windy. A clear, calm day would be best.

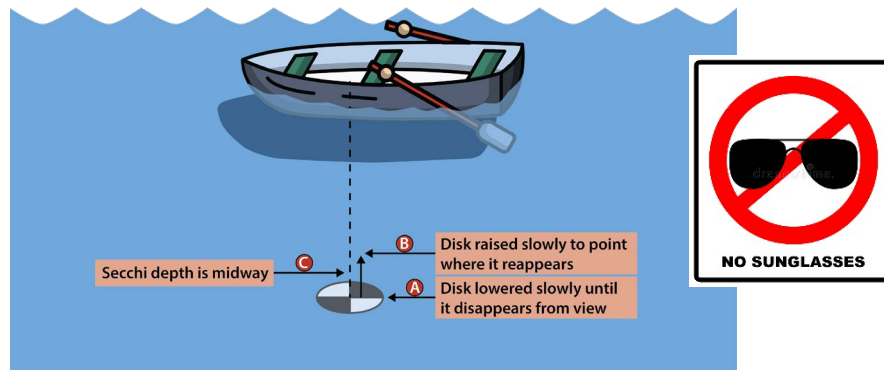
If you need assistance, please phone: **1-877-BCLAKES** or email [info@bclss.org](mailto:info@bclss.org).

### STEP 1) Water Temperature

- The water temperature reading is conducted in **surface water** at your lakes predetermined station site.
- Place the thermometer over the side of the boat and submerge just below the surface of the water.
- Wait at least one minute before reading and recording your temperature results. The reading should be taken immediately after taking the thermometer out of the water and recorded to the nearest 0.5°C.

### STEP 2) Secchi Depth

- Lower the Secchi disk over the **shaded side** of the boat.
- **Slowly** lower the disk until the black and white pattern is no longer visible. Note the measurement on the tape measure (in metres) between the Secchi disk and the surface of the water (estimate to the nearest 0.01 m). Record this as Distance A.
- Pull the disk up until the black and white pattern **just** appears again and record this distance as Distance B.
- Average the two measurements  $[(\text{Distance A} + \text{Distance B})/2] = \text{Secchi depth}$ .



### STEP 3) Check and Fill in the Remainder of the Form

- Please fill in the entire form and note any observations while travelling to or while sampling at the site. This may include algal blooms, sediment in the water, water colour, fuel slicks, debris, pollen, fish kills, recent storm or high wind events, fishing derby's, water skiing competitions, etc. The data form has space for one site on the same water body. If you need more, please use a separate copy of the data form.
- Once the sampling season is complete, please load your data into the excel sheet provided. Please send the completed excel file and a photo of your field forms by email to [info@bclss.org](mailto:info@bclss.org).

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If you prefer, you can also send your field forms by mail to the BCLSS office located at Box 110, 5505 Jacobson Road, Big Lake Ranch, BC, V0L 1G0. For assistance, please email us at [info@bclss.org](mailto:info@bclss.org) or phone our office: 1-877-BCLAKES.

- The BC Lake Stewardship and Monitoring Program (BCLSMP) would love to see your photos! Please send any lake or volunteer themed photos you would be willing to share or have displayed on the BCLSMP website.